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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

VARDI, GIL M. et al.

Serial No.: 10/050,524

Filed:

23 September 1997

EXTENDIBLE STENT APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DEPLOYING THE SAME §

Examiner: P. Prebilic

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

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Group Art Unit: 3738

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Attorney

Docket: 02/23241

(Previously 000130US)

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In connection with the filing of a Continuation Application on January 16, 2002, Applicants wish to substitute the following new claims for examination. Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: